

HUMAN/WILDLIFE ENCOUNTERS

"Most people enjoy watching wildlife, but when animals wander into areas that they are unwelcome, they can quickly become a nuisance. On Ft. Jackson we have a wide variety of resident wildlife, and while most are never an issue, there are the occasional problematic individuals. The most common complaints on Ft. Jackson involve birds, small mammals, deer, and snakes. "

PREVENTION

Wildlife need three things: food, water, and shelter. If you can control one or more of these things you can normally prevent nuisance wildlife.

- Keep the yard mowed. Long grass is a great attractant for rodents and snakes.
- Remove debris and brush piles from around buildings.
- Exclude access to building and outbuildings by keeping doors/windows closed and repairing holes and damaged siding.
- Clean up leftover pet food and store in a closeable plastic or metal container.
- Secure garbage in an appropriate container with a lid.
- Use fencing, such as chicken wire, to secure a garden area.

FOR ASSISTANCE

Wildlife - Control efforts for snakes, birds, bats, raccoons, squirrels, deer or other regulated wildlife species may be performed by the DPW Pest Management Contractor. For assistance, please contact the DPW Service Order Office.

Domestic Animals - DPW contractor Pest Control personnel and the DES – Game Wardens are responsible for the control of stray domestic animals. Contact the DPW Service Order Office or the Game Warden** to request assistance (POC info above).

Dead Animals - *During Normal Duty Hours*, the DPW Pest Management Contractor shall collect and dispose of dead animals found in the cantonment area, including those located beneath buildings and structures. *During Non-duty Hours*, the DES - Game Wardens shall collect and dispose of dead animals in the cantonment area. The DES - Game Wardens or the DPW - Wildlife Branch can collect dead animals outside the cantonment area if necessary.

BABY ANIMALS

"Baby animals are very abundant during the spring and summer months. It is not all that uncommon for people to encounter fawns, young birds, or other wildlife. Wildlife are very self-sufficient and rarely require human intervention. If you have a specific concern, please contact DPW-Wildlife Branch before attempting to handle or rescue an animal."

Common Concerns:

Deer - Young white-tailed deer, called fawns, can be seen throughout Fort Jackson during the spring and summer months. A fawn's natural defense is to stay quietly hidden, away from its mother, for hours at a time. They have almost no body odor, making them hard to detect by predators, and their spotted fur is great camouflage. These young deer will stay relatively motionless and wait patiently for their mother to return. As the fawns mature they are better able to escape from danger and will spend more time walking around with their mothers. If you are fortunate enough to encounter a hidden fawn, enjoy the experience, but keep your distance and walk away.

Sometimes fawns can be found hidden within the Cantonment areas. While these locations might not be ideal, if the fawn is not in any danger please leave it where you found it. If the animal is in a dangerous location please contact the DPW Wildlife Branch.

Birds - Please see the article from the Ft. Jackson Leader. [Right Steps Help Protect Baby Birds](#)

Snakes - For more information on snakes, please read the article from the Ft. Jackson Leader [Snakes a part of post hiss-tory.](#)